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OBSERVATIONS OF RADIO EMISSION FROM PLANET MARS

IN THE 8 mm WAVELENGTH

by

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OBSERVATIONS OF RADIO EMISSION FROM PLANET MARS IN THE 8 mm WAVELENGTH *

Astronomicheskiy Zhurnal Tom 43, vyp.1, 236-7, Izdatel'stvo "NAUKA", 1966 by B.G. Kutuza
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SUMMARY

The results of observations are presented of Mars' radio emission at 8 mm. These observations were conducted with the aid of the PT - 22 radio-telescope of the Institute of Physics of the USSR Academy of Sciences in March 1965.

It is found that the brightness temperature of Mars, averaged over the disk, is $225 \pm 10^{\circ}$ K.

As is well known [1,2], the average temperature of the illuminated side of Mars constitutes according of measurement data in the transparency window of the terrestrial atmosphere 8-14 mk $\sim 250^{\circ}$ K. On the other hand, the more precise measurements by Mayer et al [3,4] in 3.14 cm established the brightness temperature of planet's illuminated disk to be $211\pm20^{\circ}$ K. Apparently, a constant temperature, independent from the change of portions of the day, is already established at the depth from which the 3 cm radiation originates (according to Kuiper data [5], the average emission temperature of the planet is $\sim 217^{\circ}$ K).

Measurement of brightness temperature of planet's radio emission in shorter, that is, microwaves, offers interest; the layers, responsible for the microwave emission, situated nearer the surface, must, generally speaking, be periodically heated by the Sun and this is why the illuminated part of the planet must have a higher brightness temperature than in the centimeter band.

[●] NABLYUDENIYA RADIOIZLUCHENIYA MARSA NA VOLNE 8 mm .

Such measurements were conducted by us with the aid of the PT-22 radiotelescope of the Institute of Physics of the USSR Academy of Sciences

in 8 mm during the opposition of March 1965. We used Jupiter as a reference source, its brightness temperature being taken, according to [6], equal to 1440 K. The method of measurements did note differ from that earlier described [7].-

Altogether 57 registrations of Mars' passage on 8 and 15 March 1965 were performed. The results of averaging of the readings are plotted in Fig.1, while the results of these measurements' processing are compiled in the Table 1.

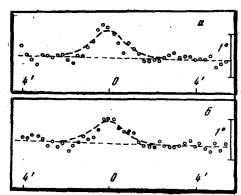


Fig.1. - Radio emission of Mars in 8 mm. - a - 8 March 1965: 6 - 15 March 1965.

TABLE 1

DATE OF OBSERVATIONS	NUMBER OF PASSAGES	Ta (OK)	Radius of planet's	T _{bright} (%K)
8 March 1965	31	0.64 ±0.05	6.98	229±30
15 " "	26	0.52 ±0.03	6.99	224±13

The average, balanced over the two days of observations, value of Mars' brightness temperature constitutes therefore $T_{\text{bright}} = 225 \pm 10^{\circ} \text{K}_{\star}$

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**** THE END ****

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